

**Subject: glowbugs V1 #226**

**glowbugs**

**Monday, January 19 1998**

**Volume 01 : Number 226**

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Date: Sun, 18 Jan 1998 08:21:41 -0700

**From: Steve Lords /WA7ISL <sklords@sprynet.com>**

**Subject: 6146 blue glow**

greetings

other then a gassy tube, it there any  
reason why a 6146 has a blue glow  
when under load..

thanks

steve

wa7isl :)

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Date: Sun, 18 Jan 1998 20:34:18 -0500 (EST)

**From: leel@digital.net**

**Subject: Location of gain pot?**

Hi gang

Fiddling around using a scope have been adjusting taps on

70v line trans am using at output trans for 6aq5 tube.

Was able to increase audio out by over 50% by changing taps.

Now the big question, the 6aq5 outout tube is driven by a 6at6 voltager amp.

where do I put the gain pot? 1 between the det out or in the grid cir of the  
6at6

or do I let the 6at6 run wide open and put the pot in the grid cir

of the 6aq5 output tube as the detector only has an out out of less than .1v

and the gain of the 6at6 is about 50 it will not over load and clip The

6at6 running wide open still would only have a 5 v sig out with a gain of

100. I do not know if it really makes a difference.

If any of you engineer types can shed some light on thid would appreciate it.

Thank the good LORD for all that you have!!!

67yr old semi disabled senior

trying to get code speed to 13wpm

(stroke got my eyesight, balance & coordination) SO ONLY BA'S NO SOLID STATE

Leon (lee) Wiltsey

4600 Lake Haven blvd

Sebring fl. 33872

KF4RCL TECK+

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Date: Sun, 18 Jan 1998 20:37:39 -0800 (PST)

**From: Ken Gordon <keng@uidaho.edu>**

**Subject: Re: 6146 blue glow**

> greetings

> other than a gassy tube, it there any  
> reason why a 6146 has a blue glow  
> when under load..

It kinda depends on WHERE the glow is. A very dark blue glow near the GLASS usually, in my experience, indicates a good tube with a hard vacuum. If the glow comes from INSIDE the plate area, it is gassy. Usually, if it is gassy, it will NOT allow full current to be drawn either.

Ken W7EKB

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Date: Mon, 19 Jan 1998 11:10:05 +0100  
**From:** Jan Axing <janax@algonet.se>  
**Subject:** Re: 6146 blue glow

Steve Lords /WA7ISL wrote:

>  
> greetings  
> other than a gassy tube, it there any  
> reason why a 6146 has a blue glow  
> when under load..

Stray electrons hitting the glass often causes a blue glow depending on the glass quality and is nothing to worry about. It's an indication of good vacuum. This can be tested with a magnet, the blue glow will move when the magnet comes near. Glow caused by gas will not move, gas ions are way heavier than the electrons.

Power tubes also shows a faint blue glow on the inside of the plate when drawing current at higher voltages and is also pretty normal. If this glow is greenish you may suspect gas. Any other color than dark blue is abnormal.

As usual: be very careful when doing the magnet test, reminding of the lethal voltages there.

73  
Jan, SM5GNN

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Date: Mon, 19 Jan 1998 09:15:14 -0500 (EST)  
**From:** leel@digital.net  
**Subject:** Location of gain pot?

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Leon (lee) Wiltsey      4600 Lake Haven blvd      Sebring fl. 33872      KF4RCL TECK+

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Date: Mon, 19 Jan 1998 16:54:57 +0100  
**From: Jan Axing <janax@algonet.se>**  
**Subject: Re: Location of gain pot?**

leel@digital.net wrote:

> Now the big question, the 6aq5 outout tube is driven by a 6at6 voltager amp.  
> where do I put the gain pot?

I would put it between the detector and the driver tube just to avoid clipping  
in the driver. If the detector output is of high impedance it may be better to  
put it in the output tube grid circuit.

Jan, SM5GNN

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End of glowbugs V1 #226  
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